

THE DEMOCRAT

W. J. ROUSE, Editor.
R. F. HIXSON, City Editor.

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Rain on the Roof.

When the humid shadows hover
Over all the starry spheres,
And the melancholy darkness
Gently weeps in rainy tears,
What a bliss to press the pillow
Of a cottage-chambered bed,
And to listen to the patter
Of the soft rain overhead!

Every tinkle on the shingles
Has an echo in the heart;
And a thousand dreamy fancies
Into busy being start.
And a thousand recollections
Weave their air-threads into wool
As I listen to the patter
Of the rain upon the roof.

Now in memory comes my mother,
As she used, in years ago,
To regard the darling dreamers
Ere she left them till the dawn;
So I see her leaning o'er me,
As I list to this refrain
Which is played upon the shingles
By the patter of the rain.

Then my little seraph sister,
With the wings and waving hair,
And her star-eyed cherub brother
A serene angelic pair
Glide around my wakeful pillow,
With their praise or mild reproof,
As I listen to the murmur
Of the soft rain on the roof.

And another comes to thrill me
With her eyes delicious blue;
And I mind not, musing on her,
That her heart was all untrue;
I remember but to love her
With a passion kin to pain,
And my heart's quick pulses vibrate
To the patter of the rain.

Art hath naught of tone or cadence
That can work with such a spell
In the soul's mysterious fountains.
Whence the tears of rapture well,
As that melody of nature,
That subdued, subduing strain
Which is played upon the shingles
By the patter of the rain.

Coates Kinney.

Awful Drouth in North Dakota.

Monroe county people who live in North Dakota are up against a crop failure because of a prolonged drouth. We take the following from a letter John S. Conyers, of Cando, wrote to T. G. Bassett last week: "The outlook for even a part of crop here is pretty slim. It is nearer a total failure than I have ever seen in the 27 years I have been in North Dakota, and the drouth extends over the entire state, except here and there a spot where they will get their seed back on account of local showers, but I am satisfied there will not be enough wheat raised in the state to seed it next year. On our own farm we will not cut an acre of wheat and we have all our plows going now turning the whole wheat crop of 800 acres under for next year. We also lost our corn (50 acres) by the frost we had June 6. Our 400 acres of barley and oats may make a little feed if we could have rain this week but we need a soaker and there don't seem much prospect at this writing to get it."—Appeal.

An Editor's Love Letter.

"Dear darling delinquent! Our precious subscriber in arrears! You are so shy! Do you think we have sold out and gone? No, little sugar-plum we could not get away if we

on sweet promises and bright expectations. They make an excellent diet darling with a little pudding flavored with a word of encouragement to serve, as a desert. We are waiting and watching for thee, our turtle dove. We long to hear thy gentle foot step on the stairway below and to hear the ring of the happy dollars within our office. Dear one we feel unusually sad and lonely without you. Now little pie-crust, will you come? Do we hear you answer in a voice so sweet and beguiling. "Looming," or is it only the winds that around our office roar? We pause for further development." Ex.

Open School Windows in Zero Weather

In an article in the August McClure, on "Oxygenizing a City," Burton J. Hendrick tells of the new "fresh-air" schools in Chicago:

"Principal Watt has gone even further. In the lower grades of his schools he began the experiment last winter of abolishing heat altogether. In these rooms he has adopted a new educational motto, 'Less instruction and more oxygen.' In keeping with this little children no longer sit together at desks with folded hands. The desks have been removed, kindergarten chairs have been brought in, and the pupils given the utmost freedom of movement. In cold winter weather they wear their wraps and hats—and these are their only source of heat. In zero weather they sit at their tables in front of open, 'drafty' windows. Their fingers do not get so numb that they cannot write on the blackboards, and physical discomfort is unknown.

"One day last winter when the thermometer registered ten below zero, a woman school visitor came into one of these cold rooms. She was horrified at what she described as 'cruelty.' But the children simply grinned. They enjoy the change immensely, and have nicknamed the old hot-air place the 'hospital rooms,' because there are so many sick children in them.

In the attorney general's office under the administration of General Major as compared with that when Hadley was attorney general, it is found that during the 18 months of Hadley's administration, from January 1, 1907, to July, 1908, the attorney general's office cost, people \$64,819.30, and he did not collect one single solitary cent to pay into the state treasury. Under General Major's administration, from January 1, 1909, to July 1, 1910, it cost the people of the state \$39,047.13 to run that office, and the Major has collected and paid into the treasury one fine of \$50,000, which shows that in stead of this office costing the people \$64,000, as it did under Hadley's administration, it has been a revenue producer under Major's administration to the tune of \$11,000—Macon Times—Democrat.

I am an insurgent because I am opposed to the boss system in politics. I am a progressive Republican because the special interests, by means of the boss and the machine, have degraded American politics in municipal, state and national affairs. So general has this condition become that unless it is attacked persistently it will destroy the freedom and equality under the law which have been the special characteristics of our government. It is issue between the reign of law and the reign of force and crime.—Miles Poindexter Republican Congressmen from the state of Washington.

The vote of James T. Umstadt being light was from two causes. First, on account of his health he could not make the canvas. Second, the day before the election phone messages were sent out over the county stating that he could not recover."

Fire Prevention.

Too much care cannot be exercised by Merchants of Monroe City to place the proper safeguard about their places of business to prevent a serious and disastrous fire. Many times a fire originates and its origin can not be explained.

The use and storage of gasoline in business houses, defective electric wiring, heating apparatus not safely installed, and the use of wooden cuspidores, are hazards that exists in many of the business houses in this place. These hazards increase your rate of insurance and if corrected would materially reduce your rate. The Companies would much prefer to accept insurance upon your building or stock at a lesser rate without these defects, than to assume the liability with the increased rate and the existence of such hazards.

Merchants are permitted to carry not over 10 gallons of gasoline in their place of business, kept in a closed, metallic can, but larger quantities should be kept outside of the premises, at least 20 feet away from the building.

Other hazards such as heating stoves without a zinc there under, defective electric wiring, and wooden cuspidores, and similar small hazards can be easily remedied and should be done to protect your own property as well as that of your neighbors.

Alleys should be kept clean and free from empty boxes and rubbish, and while such practices upon the part of our Merchants, are not only dangerous from a fire hazards standpoint, but are unsightly objects for our citizens as well as visitors, and should by all means be discontinued.

The fire limits of the city of Monroe should be revised, and the ordinances should be enforced. Within the past few years the City Council have permitted the erection of buildings within the fire limits not constructed in accordance with the ordinance.

A stitch in time saves nine and we trust that this information will act as a leaven in stimulating activity along this important and badly neglected line. ***

Shade For Sheep.

Even the boys on the farm must have noticed that in midsummer sheep are very fond of shade and as dark shade as possible. It is not the coolness of the shade they seek but the darkness. Why? to protect themselves from the fly which lays the egg which afterwards becomes the grub in the head. Now, no farmer cares to feed good grain and hay, at the prices prevailing this year, to a lot of measly grubs in the head or anywhere else.

Therefore, both humanity and the welfare of the pocket suggest that if there is no natural shade in the field, the sheep should have artificial shade, as dark as possible, something into which they can retire in the middle of the day, when the fly is a burden, and put their noses where the fly cannot reach them. Where this cannot be done, daub the sheep with tar, and thus save feed next winter.

Sheep seldom die from grub in the head. More of them become weak and perish from the disease because of lack of "grub" in the stomach; but one of the best ways of preventing suffering of the sheep, and "swinn" of the farmer's pocketbook, is to provide shade in the sheep pasture Wallace's Farmer.

It looks bad for Taft and the G. O. P. Even after "Uncle Joe" stumped Kansas, it elected six insurgents out of the eight Republicans running for Congress.

Mound City Horse Shoe Brand House Paint goes farthest, wears longest, looks best.—M. WOOD.

Principal Never Changes.

The Democracy consists of persons who conscientiously or subconsciously adhere to the broad principle of local rule. *** The Republican party is composed of those who lean toward centralization of government. *** Often the parties lose the line of their march, but they return to it instinctively. *** We have always had two great parties instead of three or more, because the main reason for their existence is a natural division of two. *** In spite of the fascination of glittering opportunism and despite great, gloomy, overshadowing issues from time to time the essence of the division is the spirit of local responsibility versus organization. *** And so we come to the explanation of the impossibility of forming a third party out of Democrats and Republicans, who for a time, have causes in common. *** It should be remembered that the Republican reform leaders naturally propose measures that are more centralizing in their character than their own party will stand for and finally, they resort to personal government which is the last word in centralization. *** Mr. Roosevelt's administration out-Republican and out-centralized any preceding Republican period of power. It was personal government. *** And the reformers and crusaders who figure on the commodity of certain popular sentiments forget the basic difference from which the great parties spring. *** Whatever the new organization is called, it must be inherently one or the other—against centralization or for it. *** These elements defy mixture like oil and water.—Kansas City Post.

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The enumerators missed Sapulpa, Okla., when the recent count was made. The entire city was failed to be reported. That's a fine how-de-do. When the counters can fail to find a whole town is it strange that they should overlook several hundred persons in a city?—Quincy Herald.

Mrs. B. F. Fasdale of Bucklin has been visiting her relatives Mr.

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This city was well represented by its business men at the New London fair Friday. The Longmire, G. W. Tooley, Layson Tooley, McClintic, Woodson and Yates autos with from four to six, left early for the fair. The cars were placarded for the Monroe fair and each occupant of every car resolved himself into a booster committee of one to whoop er up for Monroe.

Alva Goodnight has been nursing a badly sprained back. A team ran away with him and wrenched his